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International Specialists in the Environment

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 17, 1988

TO: John Osborn, FIT-RPO, USEPA, Region X

THRU: Jeffrey Villnow, FIT-OM, E&E, Seattle

FROM: James Herndon, Chemist, E&E, Seattle JEH
Andrew Hafferty, Senior Chemist, E&E, Seattle 9/HH

SUBJ: Review of CLP Laboratory Results
Samples MJB-580 and MJB-581 (Inorganics)
Monsanto

REF: TDD: F10-8802-07
PAN: F10Z054QAQ

CC: Raleigh Farlow, ESD-DPO, USEPA, Region X
Gerald Muth, DPO, USEPA, Region X, Laboratory, Manchester
Debra Mosey, ESD-DPO, USEPA, Region VII
David Bennett, HWD, USEPA, Region X
Lynn Guilford, FIT-SM, E&E, Seattle

A review of CLP inorganic analytical results was requested by Lynn Guilford. Questions were expressed regarding the levels of cadmium in samples MJB-580 and MJB-581. Both samples were field blanks. Cadmium was found in the samples.

Review of the ICP analytical sequence revealed the possible source of the contamination. Sample MJB-586, run just prior to the two blanks, had high levels of cadmium (16,800 ug/l), magnesium (16,600 ug/l), zinc (35,400 ug/l), and calcium (77,200 ug/l). It is the opinion of the reviewer that the results found for these elements in the blank samples are a result of carryover contamination in the ICP analysis.

The reviewer also believes that selenium found in sample MJB-580 was caused by a similar circumstance. Sample MJB-568 had an elevated selenium level(5,270 ug/l). Sample MJB-580 was analyzed immediately following sample MJB-568. Carryover contamination is the most likely cause of the selenium in MJB-580.

JH:ilt

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